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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS: Keefe *et al.*

SERIAL NUMBER: 10/729,581

EXAMINER: Fredman, Jeffrey Norman

FILING DATE: December 3, 2003

ART UNIT: 1637

FOR: METHOD FOR *IN VITRO* SELECTION OF 2'-SUBSTITUTED NUCLEIC ACIDS

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

November 22, 2006

Boston, Massachusetts

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Sir or Madam:

This Response is submitted in response to the non-final Office Action mailed May 25, 2006 in the above-identified patent application in which Office Action claims 1, 5-21, and 77-100 were subject to a restriction and/or election requirement and claims 1, 5-21 and 77-96 were rejected. With a three-month extension of time, these documents are due on or before Monday, November 27, 2006 (November 25, 2006 being a Saturday). Applicants submit herewith a Petition for a Three-Month Extension of Time, along with the appropriate fee. Thus, Applicants believe no additional fees are due in connection with this filing. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be due, or credit any overpayment of same, to Deposit Account No. 50-0311, Reference No. 23239-544.

Pending Claims are reflected in listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 9 of this paper.